IN THE CLAIMS

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method on an information processing system for automatically purchasing products without user interaction, the method comprising:

~~utilizing~~receiving, via a user dialog, information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites in order to obtain access to at least two of the plurality of auction sites wherein each of the at least two auction sites has a separate auction database and a separate user interface thereto~~a user identification and/or password~~;

~~utilizing~~receiving, via ~~a~~the user dialog, ~~to enter~~at least one product purchase request for at least one of a product and a service;

communicating with at least one of the plurality of ~~first and/or next~~ auction sites using the information necessary to access each auction database through the corresponding separate user interface;

determining if ~~said~~the product ~~purchase request~~is available through the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, and ~~if not, proceeding to the communicating step~~in response to the product being available and until at least one of a (i) bid is accepted and (ii) time has expired for each of the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, performing the following:

determining if a current bid from ~~said~~the auction site is below a ~~limit~~ maximum limit permitted, and ~~If not, proceeding to the communicating step~~in response to the current bid being below performing the following without further user interaction;

placing a new bid for ~~said~~the product ~~purchase request~~with ~~said~~the auction site;

determining if ~~said~~the new bid has been accepted and ~~if so,~~in response to the new bid being accepted, canceling outstanding bids at other auction sites of the plurality of auction sites where the at least one of the product and service is available; and

~~if said bid has not been accepted, determining if bidding has been~~

terminated and if so, proceeding to the communicating step;

determining if time is running out~~has expired for~~ on any ~~current~~ ~~outstanding~~new bids for a given auction site of the plurality of action sites and ~~if so,~~in response to the time expiring, canceling ~~all high cost~~ any outstanding bids for the given auction site~~and returning to the determining if said bid has been accepted; and~~

~~if time is not running out on any current outstanding bids, returning to the communicating step to inquire if there are additional auction sites in which it might be advantageous to place a bid on said product purchase request.~~

Claims 20.-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) An information processing system for automatically purchasing products without user interaction, comprising:

~~means~~a profile configuration tool for ~~utilizing~~receiving, via a user dialog, information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites in order to obtain access to at least two of the plurality of auction sites wherein each of the at least two auction sites has a separate auction database and a separate user interface thereto~~a user identification and/or password~~;

~~means~~an item selector for ~~utilizing~~receiving, via a~~the~~ user dialog, ~~to enter~~at least one product purchase request for at least one of a product and a service;

~~means~~an auction command interface for communicating with at least one of the plurality of ~~first and/or next~~ auction sites using the information necessary to access each auction database through the corresponding separate user interface;

~~means~~an auction result definition and verification unit for determining if ~~said~~the product ~~purchase request~~ is available through the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, and ~~if not, proceeding to the means for communicating~~ in response to the product being available and until at least one of a (i) bid is accepted and (ii) time has expired for each of the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, performing the following:

~~means~~an auction bid controller for determining if a current bid from

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said~~the~~ auction site is below a ~~limit~~maximum limit permitted, and ~~if not,
proceeding to the means for communicating~~in response to the current bid being
below performing the following without further user interaction;

~~means for~~placing a new bid for ~~said~~the product ~~purchase request~~
with ~~said~~the auction site;

~~means for~~determining if ~~said~~the new bid has been accepted and ~~if
so,~~in response to the new bid being accepted, canceling outstanding bids
at other auction sites of the plurality of auction sites where the at least one
of the product and service is available; and

~~if said bid has not been accepted, means for determining if bidding
has been terminated, and if so, proceeding to the means for
communicating;~~

~~means for~~determining if time ~~is running out~~has expired for on any
~~current outstanding~~new bids for a given auction site of the plurality of
action sites and ~~if so,~~in response to the time expiring, canceling ~~all high-
cost~~any outstanding bids for the given auction site ~~and returning to the
determining if said bid has been accepted; and~~

~~if time is not running out on any current outstanding bids, means for
returning to the means for communicating to inquire if there are additional
auction sites in which it might be advantageous to place a bid on said
product purchase request.~~

Claims 26. – 30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising programming
instructions on an information processing system for automatically purchasing products
without user interaction, the programming instructions including:

~~utilizing~~receiving, via a user dialog, information necessary to register at a plurality
of auction sites in order to obtain access to at least two of the plurality of auction sites
wherein each of the at least two auction sites has a separate auction database and a
separate user interface thereto~~a user identification and/or password~~;

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PAGE 7/18 * RCVD AT 11/16/2004 4:52:57 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/7 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:561 989 9812 * DURATION (mm-ss):07-24

~~utilizing~~receiving, via ~~a~~the user dialog, ~~to enter~~at least one product purchase request for at least one of a product and a service;

communicating with at least one of the plurality of ~~first and/or next~~ auction sites using the information necessary to access each auction database through the corresponding separate user interface;

determining if ~~said~~the product ~~purchase request~~is available through the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, and ~~if not, proceeding to the communicating step~~in response to the product being available and until at least one of a (i) bid is accepted and (ii) time has expired for each of the at least one of the plurality of auction sites, performing the following:

determining if a current bid from ~~said~~the auction site is below a ~~limit~~ maximum limit permitted, and ~~if not, proceeding to the communicating step~~in response to the current bid being below performing the following without further user interaction;

placing a new bid for ~~said~~the product ~~purchase request~~with ~~said~~the auction site;

determining if ~~said~~the new bid has been accepted and ~~if so,~~in response to the new bid being accepted, canceling outstanding bids at other auction sites of the plurality of auction sites where the at least one of the product and service is available; and

~~if said bid has not been accepted, determining if bidding has been terminated and if so, proceeding to the communicating step;~~

determining if time ~~is running out~~has expired for on any ~~current outstanding~~new bid~~s~~ for a given auction site of the plurality of action sites and ~~if so,~~in response to the time expiring, canceling ~~all high cost~~any outstanding bids for the given auction site ~~and returning to the determining if said bid has been accepted; and~~

~~if time is not running out on any current outstanding bids, returning to the communicating step to inquire if there are additional auction sites in which it might be advantageous to place a bid on said product purchase request.~~

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32. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites is stored in an auction profile database.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for performing a search in response to a purchase request.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for placing a bid in response to a purchase request.

35. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for canceling a bid.

36. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

37. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

38. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

39. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein at least one of the plurality of auction sites is an Internet-based web auction site.

40. (New) The system of claim 25, further comprising:
an auction profile database for storing the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites.

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41. (New) The system of claim 40, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for performing a search in response to a purchase request.

42. (New) The system of claim 40, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for placing a bid in response to a purchase request.

43. (New) The system of claim 40, wherein the information necessary to register at a plurality of auction sites includes protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases for canceling a bid.

44. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

45. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

46. (New) The system of claim 43, wherein the protocol necessary to access each of the plurality of auction databases is based on Extended Markup Language (XML).

47. (New) The system of claim 25, wherein at least one of the plurality of auction sites is an Internet-based web auction site.

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